

The Ward County  
INDEPENDENT

Published Every Thursday.  
By TRUAX & COLCORD

MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA.



THE FARMERS' LEAGUE.

Never in the history of this or any other state has an organization made such rapid growth in so quiet a manner as the Farmer's League. Few outside of the actual members know anything about this organization, so quietly have the organizers gone about their work. At the rate of the present growth, the organizers claim they will have 40,000 members in the state by October and at the rate of six dollars for each member, quite a sum of money will have been raised. Of course, all of this is not profit, for the organization expenses come out of it, and each member will receive a copy of Pearson's magazine for one year, besides a year's subscription to the organization's official organ, which is to be established somewhere in the state early in the fall.

When the legislature turned down the terminal elevator bill, certain members became angered and threatened to oust all opposing legislators from office. While the representatives of the Equity were yet in Bismarck, after their memorable meeting at the legislative halls, the movement was started. At first one automobile was hired and an organizer started out among the farmers. As soon as sufficient funds had been raised, the auto was bought outright, then another added and so on, until there are now fifteen of these machines, going hither and thither thru the state. McHenry county was canvassed and it is said that 1800 members were secured. Some work was done in Ward county. This week five machines are working near New Rockford. In one township near Fessenden, out of a possible 36, 34 farmers were secured in the organization, many paying the six dollars cash, and the others gave their checks dated ahead to October 1, 1915. These checks must be paid, otherwise the act of giving them can be considered criminal. But the farmers have no intentions of not covering the amount of these checks. Of course, all farmers will not join the organization, but enough of them are already in it to make the league a power, if only the leaders do not take advantage of the members, as was done in the case of the old Farmers' Alliance.

The object of the League is to place men in the legislature who will be favorable to the terminal elevator bill, a state owned packing plant, and who will favor Equity principles generally. Understand, the Equity is not in any way connected with the new organization, except that it is in sympathy with the movement. County, state and national politics are not to be meddled with in the least—merely legislative. The object is to organize each township where a caucus will be held at the proper time, and some candidate selected for the legislature, regardless of party. The outcome will be watched with considerable interest.

DOES IT PAY?

Ladies Home Journal: Few persons realize the wonderful record that Kansas shows at the end of her thirty years' prohibition of the sale of alcoholic liquors. A careful investigation showed that:

In 87 of her 105 counties Kansas has now no insane.

In 54 of these counties there are no feeble minded.

96 of her counties have no inebriates.

38 of her county poor houses are empty.

53 of her jails were recently empty and 65 counties had no prisoners in the state penitentiary.

The entire number of paupers in the state falls short of 600.

Some counties have not called a Grand Jury to try a criminal case in 10 years.

Not long ago Kansas had 200 millions of dollars in her banks; her farmers owned livestock valued at 225 millions of dollars, and in one year the people have added 45 millions of dollars to their taxable property.

Only two per cent of the entire population is illiterate.

The mortality rate has dropped from 17 per 1,000 to 7 per 1,000.

Does prohibition pay the people of a state? Kansas certainly answers the question with wonderful figures!

THE OFFICE BOY.

J. Orden Armour, head of the big packing industry which bears his name, believes that the selection of office boys is an important factor in business building. He made the following significant statements recently before the federal industrial commission which is investigating into labor conditions in the large centers of the nation:

"The boy of today runs Armour & Co. of tomorrow. The selection of office boys is the most particular branch of our work, because as a rule our boys become department heads.

Fly time will soon be here. We remember when a boy, flies were expected to put in their appearance in the summer as a matter of course and were not considered particularly dangerous. It has been learned that flies are very filthy, and they carry disease germs, such as typhoid fever and tuberculosis and that they dine and breed in fresh manure piles and garbage, and then visit our tables, cleaning their feet on our bread and cake. They are very filthy and dangerous. Screen your homes. Screens and mosquito netting are cheaper than doctors' bills. Besides, who wants to be annoyed by the filthy things?

Tree planting is easy but the writer didn't realize it until after we toiled with a spade during the heat of the day out at the farm and succeeded in getting about 300 trees in the ground. We selected a likely looking spot for a grove and dug in. We will admit that we are a little green about accomplishing actual results, but our intentions were first rate. After preaching the gospel of tree planting for fifteen years we thought it about time to do a little practicing and cannot say that we are sorry for the experience. Of course, as a result, we proudly display a few blisters, and are thinking seriously of securing the services of a valet to enable us to get out of bed on schedule time, but those trees are all in the ground. Just as Old Sol was disappearing in one of North Dakota's most glorious sunsets, we spied a sturdy son of toil over in an adjoining field and related our troubles. He had been there before and was soon on the ground with four horses and a sulkey plow. While he drove, we rode the plow and a fine deep furrow was the result. The rest was easy. The trees were placed in the furrow, the dirt from another furrow covered them nicely, and it required but a few moments to straighten them and tramp the dirt around them. We simply cannot be beaten at tramping the loose dirt around trees. We are thinking of writing an article on tree culture for one of the farm papers and in the meantime have visions of the time when we can swing an easy hammock under those trees and reflect on the folly of hard work.

Secretary Brewer of the State Game Board, we presume, will soon be explaining to the "dear" newspaper boys of the state why he failed to redeem his many promises of the past two years to give the press boys at least a chance to bid on printing, providing the incoming Attorney General would rule that such was legal. Attorney General Linde had been in office over three months without such request for ruling having been made by the secretary, when the latter suddenly woke up and passed over \$1,000 worth of printing for which there was no special hurry or rush, to a couple of job houses in Fargo, who certainly had never "borne the burden and the heat of the day." All the press boys wanted was an opportunity to submit bids. We are informed that the Attorney General has since ruled that the State Game Fund, being an independent and special fund, not raised by general taxation, is directly under the direction of the Board, and if printing is needed, is also independent of the State Printing Commission. The Colonel could doubtless have received the same opinion, had he cared to ask. Et tu Brutus. Or was there some inducement? It is also claimed by some members of the press gang, that the Colonel was quite active last winter in Bismarck, in throwing bolts into the cog wheel of legislation, favorable to the newspapers, where the same might not be favorable to the Knight Printing Company.

The county commissioners will in all probability soon start a fund for a new court house. This can be set aside annually and when, in a few years, the old court house falls to pieces from decay, there will be a fund of several thousand dollars and the tax payers will hardly have missed it. There is no intention of starting an agitation for a new court house right away, for our county officials are satisfied in sticking by the old ship until she sinks, but sooner or later, the present building will have to be replaced. The old part, which was built many years ago, is in a sorry plight. The brick have sunk away from the windows until one can place his hand in the aperture, and they are bulging out here and there about the building. It is feared that a good strong wind will raze the structure to the ground. The newer part does very well, but Ward County will never have a real court house until the entire structure is torn away and a brand new structure built. Mountrail county has one of the finest little court houses in the state but Ward county will have to worry along a few years until the tax payers are in better financial condition.

Thousands of people sampled North Dakota's famous baked potatoes at the San Francisco exposition the other day, seasoned with North Dakota butter. The St. Louis exposition made Minnesota famous as the bread and butter state of the union and the North Dakota Potato Day at the exposition will cause our state to be known hereafter as the home of the potato. Really, our fertile soil can produce most anything better than that of most other states and particularly spuds. It's nothing to grow from three to four hundred bushels per acre of great big potatoes weighing from one to two pounds, and even larger. Thousands of our farmers are growing wealthy raising potatoes. The crop not only is a paying one, but nothing puts the soil in better condition for wheat and the other crops. Let's take off our hats to Ed Richter and the North Dakota potato.

The Bismarck Tribune does not think much of Mrs. Lamb's scheme to populate North Dakota. Mrs. Lamb is a widow of a former well-to-do North Dakotan and owns considerable farm land. She proposes to send many of Chicago's poor families to the state, North Dakota to put up \$500 and Chicago citizens \$9,500. The Tribune thinks Chicago is willing to furnish this money in order to get rid of some of her poorer citizens, and there may be something to it. We need more actual farmers but this state isn't exactly a dumping ground for paupers.

Three more counties in Minnesota were voted dry by a vote ranging from two to three to one. The entire state is destined to come in out of the wet at an early date.

A settlement between the employers and the employees of the ninety-six railroads running west and south from Chicago, was reached at Chicago last week. Such roads as the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific and other large concerns, profited by the agree-

ment, while the smaller roads did not fare so well. The roads have been fighting for a year for a uniform schedule and while this was not secured, they will all operate under a general set of rules. Great Northern engineers secure pay for certain things which they formerly did for nothing. Other employees will benefit considerably by the agreement. None of the larger roads lost anything, and, taken all in all, the settlement is a step forward for the employees.

The \$50,000 libel suit of "Boss" Barnes against Theodore Roosevelt is attracting much attention, not merely because of the fact of their personal quarrel but because old boss methods employed by certain leaders in both parties are being shown up. Roosevelt was on the stand for seven days and he gave a good account of himself, showing up Barnes as a second "Dr. Jeckyl and Mr. Hyde."

NOTICE.

I will offer for sale, at public auction, at 2 p. m. on the 10th day of May, at the office of Lewis & Bach, Minot, N. D., the stock, fixtures and accounts of the G. Hougen store of Drake, N. D. Bidders must deposit with me a certified check for the sum of \$500, before being allowed to bid. Such check to be forfeited, if bidder fails to complete purchase. Terms, cash at close of

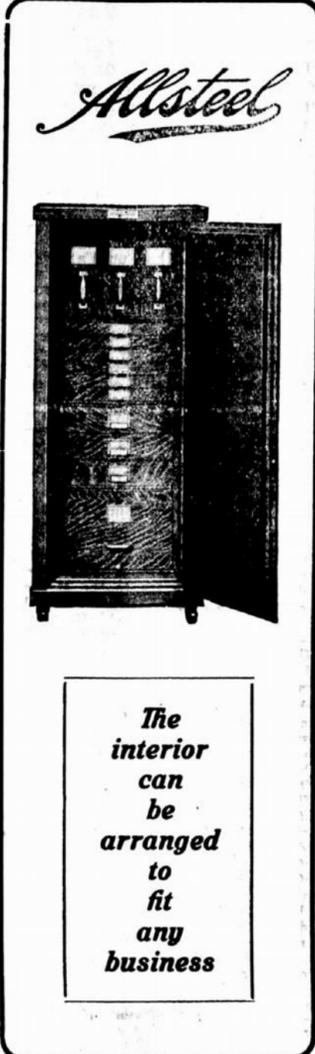
sale. Highest bid not necessarily accepted, as sale must be confirmed by the Referee in Bankruptcy, and is subject to his approval. The inventory shows the various departments to be as follows.

Dry Goods	\$ 464.04
Crockery	48.02
Jewelry	268.49
Gloves, mitts, socks	295.52
Notions	215.86
Warehouse	758.73
Hose	200.03
Underwear	498.58
Dresses, sweaters	282.05
Shirts, overalls, etc.	963.54
Notions	68.50
Overshoes	236.22
Shelf Crockery	66.34
Miscellaneous	65.81
Hats, caps, etc.	372.36
Shoes	1325.54
Groceries	1499.27

Fixtures	\$7593.64
Accounts due the Estate	\$ 437.00
Total	\$8030.64
Total	\$9268.90
E. B. McCUTCHEON, Trustee.	

4-29-t2 Before buying lightning rods investigate. Silver Strand System. For prices write D. C. Hoy, Minot, N. D. 5-612\*

MERCHANTS!



A MAN WHOM YOU ALL KNOW IN DAKOTA

The Honorable Vic. Corbett, Receiver of the United States Land Office, Minot, N. D., says:

"I was in the Washington Offices at the time the contest took place as to the relative merits of the various steel filing devices. These were tested by actual fire and I must say that it showed considerable nerve on the part of any manufacturing firm to submit their goods to a public test under the trying ordeal given on this occasion.

The fire was fierce and extra flammable fuel was added before the fire brigade extinguished it.

On opening the various cabinets, in many of which the contents were nothing but charred ashes, in the "Allsteel" cabinets, papers presented scorched edges but the entire sheet was preserved and in a good condition for future use.

I understand that afterwards the ALL-STEEL Company was awarded the contract for supplying the Government offices with ALLSTEEL Safes and Filing Cabinets."

These Cabinets are fire-proof, and not painted stove-pipe iron. They will stand the "acid" test against all comers.

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For sale complete postoffice outfit at about half price, consisting of lock boxes, large safe, several roll top desks, clothes lockers and everything used in connection with the Minot postoffice.

The postoffice department expects to occupy the new Federal building about June 1, and I can turn over the above outfit after that time. Everything in first-class shape. Here is a bargain for someone.

GUY O. FRANK  
MINOT, N. DAK.